



EDMONTON WOLFE TONES GAELIC FOOTBALL CLUB

Alberta - Vancouver Double Strike in Edmonton:

The 2007 Western Canada GAA calendar commenced formally at the Edmonton Rugby Union fields in South Edmonton, on Canada Day Week-end. Both the Men's & Ladies' tournaments were to feature the three Western Canada Division teams, but the men's play would also feature the newly formed Red Deer Eire Og team.

As usual, The Championship first Round would be played out on the Saturday, during the tournament round robin stages, with the Edmonton tournament knockout stages being played on Sunday. Red Deer competed admirably in the round robin play defeating the host team, and Rory Lynch and his cohorts have left an impression on the Western Canada GAA scene.

Western Canadian Championship Round Up – Round 1

The **Men's** Championship is all but decided after the results from Saturdays play. The Calgary Chieftains lead by the inspirational Adrian Lagan, and a wealth of experienced players, outplayed both of their opponents. And the result of the Vancouver Harps & Edmonton Wolfe Tones clash will have done neither of them any favors. A draw means that Calgary will recapture the Championship (that they last won in 2004) should they record one victory in the final Round of play next month in Burnaby, BC.

The **Ladies'** Championship, however, is wide open. The ladies of Edmonton and Vancouver played out an enthralling game. A single point separated the sides, with Edmonton edging it in an epic match-up. Cathy Jackson (Vancouver) & Carlin Acheson Johnston (Edmonton) played pivotal roles in their teams performances. Both teams were able to secure victory over a depleted Calgary Chieftains side, and know that they will be playing for the Championship when they next meet in August.

Men's 2007 WCC Table (Rd 1)	W	D	L	Pts
Calgary Chieftains	2	0	0	4
Edmonton Wolfe Tones	0	1	1	1
Vancouver Harps	0	1	1	1

Ladies' 2007 WCC Table (Rd 1)	W	D	L	Pts
Edmonton Wolfe Tones	2	0	0	4
Vancouver Harps	1	0	1	2
Calgary Chieftains	0	0	2	0

The round-robin action of Saturday was followed by an evening of great entertainment in the Irish Sports & Social Club, with the hospitality of the hosts the usual 'top-class' that visiting teams have come to expect. Conversation centered on the massive showing of the Vancouver Ladies', the performances of the revitalized Chieftains' Men's team and the strength of the new boys from Red Deer.

Edmonton Tournament Results:

Sunday's play was again notable for another titanic clash in the Ladies between the Wolfe Tones and Harps. Stephanie Hahn putting in an MVP performance from the back-line to help Vancouver to a narrow victory over the hosts.

Though Saturday's match-ups in the Men's were noteworthy for the dominance of Calgary, Sunday's final proved to be a case of saving the best wine for last. Calgary were looking to be heading for a narrow victory to retain the Edmonton trophy, when Vancouver snatched a last gasp equalizer. Extra time followed, but this time it was the Harps, lead by MVP Peter Agnew, that eked out the slender victory.

A notable result in that it was the first time in the new millennium that an away club has taken both the Ladies and Men's tournament title in the same weekend.

Erin McGinley accepted the Ladies Trophy, while Owen Nolan accepted the Men's (the newly titled Christy Whelehan Cup, named after, & presented by, none other than the great Westmeath man himself).